Roads in Maharashtra

331. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Highways that pass through the States of Maharashtra and how many districts do they serve;

(b) whether Government are planning to link remaining districts of the State with National Highways and if so, the details thereof and the funds provided to this effect during the year 2003-04;

(c) the length of National Highways developed or being developed to four-lane facility in the State; and

(d) the foreign loans received for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a; Fourteen National Highways passing through the State of Maharashtra connect 29 districts of the State.

(b) There is no plan at present to link the remaining districts.

(c) Four laning has already been done in 161 km. and the works on 56 km. on B.O.T basis are in progress. Four laning of 373 km on National Highway No. 4 is being taken up under the Golden Quardilateral Project.

(d) A World Bank loan for NH-8 from Km. 439.00 to 497.00 (58 km) including a major bridge over Bassein Creek, was received and the work completed in 2001.

Road from Delhi to Kolkata

332. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Golden Quadrilateral highway construction scheme from Delhi to Kolkata is in deep trouble and facing hurdles;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to complete the project as per schedule and to remove the hurdles; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a to (d) Progress of some of the packages on the Delhi-Kolkata section o the Golden Quardilateral has been affected due to various reasons such